

COUNTY OF SAN LUIS OBISPO DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING AND BUILDING STAFF REPORT

Tentative Notice of Action

MEETING DATE

CONTACT/PHONE

APPLICANT

FILE NO.

September 16, 2005 EFFECTIVE DATE

Karen Nall, Project manager

Wild Rose Vineyards –

DRC2004-00222

April 30, 2005

781-5606

Randy Phillips

SUBJECT

Request by Wild Rose Vineyards for a Minor Use Permit to allow the construction of two farm support quarters approximately 1,200 square feet in size each. The project will result in the disturbance of approximately 20,000 square feet of a 100 acre parcel. The proposed project is within the Agriculture land use category and is located on the North and South sides of Magdalena Drive approximately ¾ of a mile east of River Road, approximately 1000 feet east of the community of San Miguel. The site is in the Salinas River planning area.

RECOMMENDED ACTION

- 1. Adopt the Negative Declaration in accordance with the applicable provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act, Public Resources Code Section 21000 et seq.
- 2. Approve Minor Use Permit DRC2004-00222 based on the findings listed in Exhibit A and the conditions listed in Exhibit B

ENVIRONMENTAL DETERMINATION

The Environmental Coordinator, after completion of the initial study, finds that there is no substantial evidence that the project may have a significant effect on the environment, and the preparation of an Environmental Impact Report is not necessary. Therefore, a Negative Declaration (pursuant to Public Resources Code Section 21000 et seq., and CA Code of Regulations Section 15000 et seq.) has been issued on July 22, 2005 for this project. Mitigation measures are proposed to address biology and are included as conditions of approval.

LAND	USE	CATEGORY
Agric	:ultu	ıre

COMBINING DESIGNATION
None

ASSESSOR PARCEL NUMBER 027-231-023, 027-261-

SUPERVISOR DISTRICT(S)

002&004

PLANNING AREA STANDARDS:

None Applicable

Does the project meet applicable Planning Area Standards: None applicable.

AND USE ORDINANCE STANDARDS:

Does the project conform to the Land Use Ordinance Standards: Yes - see discussion.

FINAL ACTION

This tentative decision will become final action on the project, effective on the 15th day following the administrative hearing, or on September 30,2005, if no hearing was requested unless this decision is changed as a result of information obtained at the hearing or is appealed.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION MAY BE OBTAINED BY CONTACTING THE DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING & BUILDING AT:

COUNTY GOVERNMENT CENTER ♦ SAN LUIS OBISPO ♦ CALIFORNIA 93408 ♦ (805) 781-5600 ♦ FAX: (805) 781-1242

EXISTING USES: Approximately 60 acres of vineyard	s, four single family residence	ces under construction.			
surrounding Land use Categories and North: Agriculture - vineyards South: Agriculture - vineyards	D USES: <i>East:</i> Agriculture - vineyar <i>West:</i> Agriculture - vineyar				
OTHER AGENCY / ADVISORY GROUP INVOLVEMENT: The project was referred to: Public Works, Ag Commissioner, Environmental Health, San Miguel Fire, Department of Fish and Game, San Miguel Community Advisory					
тородгарну: Gently rolling		VEGETATION: Vineyards			
PROPOSED SERVICES: Water supply: On-site well Sewage Disposal: Individual septic Fire Protection: San Miguel Fire	system	ACCEPTANCE DATE: May 9, 2005			

DISCUSSION

LAND USE ORDINANCE STANDARDS: The subject site is approximately 105 acres of planted vineyards. The site is comprised of seven legal lots. Six, 10 acre parcels located on Magdalena Drive and a 45 acre parcel located on Wellsona Road approximately 3 miles south. The parcels are currently under two Williamson Act contracts. The applicant has received approval for non-renewal and the contracts will expire in 2013.

The applicant is requesting to build six 1,200 square foot single family residences. One residence will be located on each of the underlying 10 acre parcels. The residences will be used as farm labor housing until the Williamson Act contracts expire. The applicant has received building permits and is currently under construction on four of the residences. He is requesting a Minor Use Permit to construct a 5th and 6th residence as farm support quarters.

The Land Use Ordinance allows Ag parcels over 20 in size to have two primary residences and additional farm support residences at a density of one unit per 20 acres for sites planted in irrigated vineyards. The subject site of approximately 105 acres of irrigated vineyards and would qualify for five farm support quarters.

The project has been reviewed for consistency with the Larid Bill governing Williamson Act contracted land and has been found in compliance.

The San Miguel Advisory Council reviewed this project and would like to see Magdalena Road paved. The Land Use Ordinance requires all weather access, not pavement.

AGENCY REVIEW:

Public Works- Requiring all-weather access

San Miguel Fire – Requiring water storage, fire sprinklers and driveway width and slope.

Department of Fish and Game – Kit Fox mitigation required

Ag Commissioners – No issues

San Miguel Advisory – Concerns with Magdalena Road, would like to see this project require pavement.

LEGAL LOT STATUS:

The lots were legally created by the San Lawerence Terrace tract map.

Staff report prepared by Karen Nall and reviewed by Kami Griffin.

EXHIBIT A - FINDINGS

Environmental Determination

A. The Environmental Coordinator, after completion of the initial study, finds that there is no substantial evidence that the project may have a significant effect on the environment, and the preparation of an Environmental Impact Report is not necessary. Therefore, a Negative Declaration (pursuant to Public Resources Code Section 21000 et seq., and CA Code of Regulations Section 15000 et seq.) has been issued on July 22, 2005 for this project. Mitigation measures are proposed to address biology and are included as conditions of approval.

Minor Use Permit

- B. The proposed project or use is consistent with the San Luis Obispo County General Plan because the use is an allowed use and as conditioned is consistent with all of the General Plan policies.
- C. As conditioned, the proposed project or use satisfies all applicable provisions of Title 22 of the County Code.
- D. The establishment and subsequent operation or conduct of the use will not, because of the circumstances and conditions applied in the particular case, be detrimental to the health, safety or welfare of the general public or persons residing or working in the neighborhood of the use, or be detrimental or injurious to property or improvements in the vicinity of the use because the project does not generate activity that presents a potential threat to the surrounding property and buildings. This project is subject to Ordinance and Building Code requirements designed to address health, safety and welfare concerns.
- E. The proposed project or use will not be inconsistent with the character of the immediate neighborhood or contrary to its orderly development because the two farm support quarters are in direct support of the surrounding lands and uses.
- F. The proposed project or use will not generate a volume of traffic beyond the safe capacity of all roads providing access to the project, either existing or to be improved with the project because the project is located on Magdalena Drive, a local road constructed to a level able to handle any additional traffic associated with the project

EXHIBIT B - CONDITIONS OF APPROVAL

Approved Development

1. This approval authorizes the construction of two farm support of 1,200 sq ft each in size.

Conditions required to be completed at the time of application for construction permits

Site Development

2. At the time of application for construction permits plans submitted shall show all development consistent with the approved site plan.

Fire Safety

At the time of application for construction permits, all plans submitted to the Department of Planning and Building shall meet the fire and life safety requirements of the California Fire Code. Requirements shall include, but not be limited to those outlined in the Fire Safety Plan, prepared by the San Miguel Fire Department for this proposed project and dated December 31, 2004.

Conditions to be completed prior to issuance of a construction permit

Fees

4. **Prior to issuance of a construction permit**, the applicant shall pay all applicable school and public facilities fees.

Record Agreement

5. **Prior to issuance of a construction permit**, the applicant shall record a notice limiting the occupancy of the residences to a farm worker and their families.

Kit Fox

- 6. **Prior to issuance of grading and/or construction permits,** the applicant shall submit evidence to the County of San Luis Obispo, Department of Planning and Building, Environmental and Resource Management Division (County) (see contact information below) that states that one or a combination of the following four San Joaquin kit fox mitigation measures has been implemented:
 - a. Provide for the protection in perpetuity, through acquisition of fee or a conservation easement of a number of acres to be determined by future construction permits of suitable habitat in the kit fox corridor area (e.g. within the San Luis Obispo County kit fox habitat area, northwest of Highway 58), either on-site or off-site, and provide for a non-wasting endowment to provide for management and monitoring of the property

in perpetuity. Lands to be conserved shall be subject to the review and approval of the California Department of Fish and Game (Department) and the County.

This mitigation alternative (a.), requires that all aspects if this program must be in place before County permit issuance or initiation of any ground disturbing activities.

- b. Deposit funds into an approved in-lieu fee program, which would provide for the protection in perpetuity of suitable habitat in the kit fox corridor area within San Luis Obispo County, and provide for a non-wasting endowment for management and monitoring of the property in perpetuity.
 - Mitigation alternative (b) above, can be completed by providing funds to The Nature Conservancy (TNC) pursuant to the Voluntary Fee-Based Compensatory Mitigation Program (Program). The Program was established in agreement between the Department and TNC to preserve San Joaquin kit fox habitat, and to provide a voluntary mitigation alternative to project proponents who must mitigate the impacts of projects in accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). The fee, payable to "The Nature Conservancy", will be based on a \$2500.00 per disturbed acre. This fee must be paid after the Department provides written notification about your mitigation options but prior to County permit issuance and initiation of any ground disturbing activities.
- c. Purchase credits based on the amount of in a Department-approved conservation bank, which would provide for the protection in perpetuity of suitable habitat within the kit fox corridor area and provide for a non-wasting endowment for management and monitoring of the property in perpetuity.
 - At this time, there is no approved conservation bank that is operational in San Luis Obispo County. A conservation bank is expected to be operational in the near future. Purchase of credits must be completed prior to County permit issuance and initiation of any ground disturbing activities.
- d. If none of the above measures (a, b, or c) are available, the applicant may enter into a Mitigation Agreement with the Department, including depositing of funds into an escrow account (or other means of securing funds acceptable to the Department) which would ensure the protection in perpetuity of an a amount to determined once grading and/or building permits are applied for of suitable habitat within the kit fox corridor area and provide for a non-wasting endowment for management and monitoring in perpetuity. The Department can provide a draft agreement to review; a signed Mitigation Agreement shall be submitted prior to County permit issuance and initiation of any ground disturbing activities.
- 7. **Prior to issuance of grading and/or construction permits**, the applicant shall provide evidence that they have retained a qualified biologist acceptable to the County. The retained biologist shall perform the following monitoring activities:
 - a. Prior to issuance of grading and/or construction permits and within 30 days prior to initiation of site disturbance and/or construction, the biologist shall conduct a pre-activity (i.e. pre-construction) survey for known or potential kit fox dens and submit a letter to the County reporting the date the survey was conducted, the

survey protocol, survey results, and what measures were necessary (and completed), as applicable, to address any kit fox activity within the project limits.

- b. The qualified biologist shall conduct weekly site visits during site-disturbance activities (i.e. grading, disking, excavation, stock piling of dirt or gravel, etc.) that proceed longer than 14 days, for the purpose of monitoring compliance with required Mitigation Measures BR-3 through BR11. Site-disturbance activities lasting up to 14 days do not require weekly monitoring by the biologist unless observations of kit fox or their dens are made on-site or the qualified biologist recommends monitoring for some other reason (see BR-2-c3). When weekly monitoring is required, the biologist shall submit weekly monitoring reports to the County.
- c. Prior to or during project activities, if any observations are made of San Joaquin Kit fox, or any known or potential San Joaquin kit fox dens are discovered within the project limits, the qualified biologist shall re-assess the probability of incidental take (e.g. harm or death) to kit fox. At the time a den is discovered, the qualified biologist shall contact the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the Department (see contact information below) for guidance on possible additional kit fox protection measures to implement and whether or not a Federal and/or State incidental take permit is needed. If a potential den is encountered during construction, work shall stop until such time the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service/Department determines it is appropriate to resume work.

If incidental take of kit fox during project activities is possible, **before project activities commence**, the applicant must consult with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the Department. The results of this consultation may require the applicant to obtain a Federal and/or State permit for incidental take during project activities. The applicant should be aware that the presence of kit foxes or known or potential kit fox dens at the project site could result in further delays of project activities.

- d. In addition, the qualified biologist shall implement the following measures:
 - 1. Within 30 days prior to initiation of site disturbance and/or construction, fenced exclusion zones shall be established around all known and potential kit fox dens. Exclusion zone fencing shall consist of either large flagged stakes connected by rope or cord, or survey laths or wooden stakes prominently flagged with survey ribbon. Each exclusion zone shall be roughly circular in configuration with a radius of the following distance measured outward from the den or burrow entrances:
 - a) Potential kit fox den: 50 feet
 - b) Known or active kit fox den: 100 feet
 - c) Kit fox pupping den: 150 feet
 - 2. All foot and vehicle traffic, as well as all construction activities, including storage of supplies and equipment, shall remain outside of exclusion zones. Exclusion zones shall be maintained until all project-related disturbances have been terminated, and then shall be removed.

- 3. If kit foxes or known or potential kit fox dens are found on site, daily monitoring during ground disturbing activities shall be required by a qualified biologist.
- 8. **Prior to issuance of grading and/or construction permits,** the applicant shall clearly delineate as a note on the project plans, that: "Speed signs of 25 mph (or lower) shall be posted for all construction traffic to minimize the probability of road mortality of the San Joaquin kit fox". Speed limit signs shall be installed on the project site within 30 days prior to initiation of site disturbance and/or construction,

In addition, **prior to permit issuance and initiation of any ground disturbing activities**, conditions BR-3 through BR-11 of the Developer's Statement/Conditions of Approval shall be clearly delineated on project plans.

- 9. **During the site disturbance and/or construction phase**, grading and construction activities after dusk shall be prohibited unless coordinated through the County, during which additional kit fox mitigation measures may be required.
- 10. Prior to issuance of grading and/or construction permit and within 30 days prior to initiation of site disturbance and/or construction, all personnel associated with the project shall attend a worker education training program, conducted by a qualified biologist, to avoid or reduce impacts on sensitive biological resources (i.e. San Joaquin kit fox). At a minimum, as the program relates to the kit fox, the training shall include the kit fox's life history, all mitigation measures specified by the county, as well as any related biological report(s) prepared for the project. The applicant shall notify the County shortly prior to this meeting. A kit fox fact sheet shall also be developed prior to the training program, and distributed at the training program to all contractors, employers and other personnel involved with the construction of the project.
- 11. **During the site-disturbance and/or construction phase,** to prevent entrapment of the San Joaquin kit fox, all excavation, steep-walled holes or trenches in excess of two feet in depth shall be covered at the close of each working day by plywood or similar materials, or provided with one or more escape ramps constructed of earth fill or wooden planks. Trenches shall also be inspected for entrapped kit fox each morning prior to onset of field activities and immediately prior to covering with plywood at the end of each working day. Before such holes or trenches are filled, they shall be thoroughly inspected for entrapped kit fox. Any kit fox so discovered shall be allowed to escape before field activities resume, or removed from the trench or hole by a qualified biologist and allowed to escape unimpeded.
- 12. **During the site-disturbance and/or construction phase,** any pipes, culverts, or similar structures with a diameter of four inches or greater, stored overnight at the project site shall be thoroughly inspected for trapped San Joaquin kit foxes before the subject pipe is subsequently buried, capped, or otherwise used or moved in any way. If during the construction phase a kit fox is discovered inside a pipe, that section of pipe will not be moved, or if necessary, be moved only once to remove it from the path of activity, until the kit fox has escaped.
- During the site-disturbance and/or construction phase, all food-related trash items such as wrappers, cans, bottles, and food scraps generated shall be disposed of in closed containers only and regularly removed from the site. Food items may attract San

Joaquin kit foxes onto the project site, consequently exposing such animals to increased risk of injury or mortality. No deliberate feeding of wildlife shall be allowed.

- 14. **Prior to, during and after the site-disturbance and/or construction phase,** use of pesticides or herbicides shall be in compliance with all local, State and Federal regulations. This is necessary to minimize the probability of primary or secondary poisoning of endangered species utilizing adjacent habitats, and the depletion of prey upon which San Joaquin kit foxes depend.
- During the site-disturbance and/or construction phase, any contractor or employee that inadvertently kills or injures a San Joaquin kit fox or who finds any such animal either dead, injured, or entrapped shall be required to report the incident immediately to the applicant and County. In the event that any observations are made of injured or dead kit fox, the applicant shall immediately notify the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and Department by telephone (see contact information below). In addition, formal notification shall be provided in writing within three working days of the finding of any such animal(s). Notification shall include the date, time, location and circumstances of the incident. Any threatened or endangered species found dead or injured shall be turned over immediately to Department for care, analysis, or disposition.
- 16. **Prior to final inspection**, or occupancy, whichever comes first, should any long internal or perimeter fencing be proposed or installed, the applicant shall do the following to provide for kit fox passage:
 - a. If a wire strand/pole design is used, the lowest strand shall be no closer to the ground than 12".
 - b. If a more solid wire mesh fence is used, 8" x 12" openings near the ground shall be provided every 100 yards.

Upon fence installation, the applicant shall notify the County to verify proper installation. Any fencing constructed after issuance of a final permit shall follow the above guidelines.

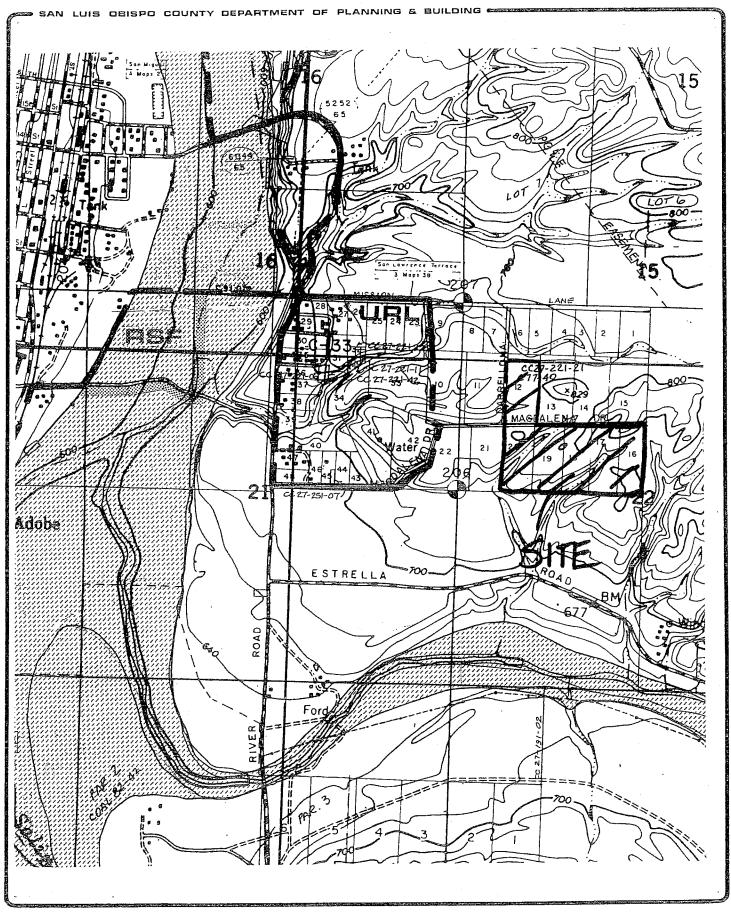
Conditions to be completed prior to final construction permit inspection

17. **Prior to occupancy or final inspection**, which ever occurs first, the applicant shall obtain final inspection and approval from San Miguel Fire Department of all required fire/life safety measures.

On-going conditions of approval (valid for the life of the project)

This land use permit is valid for a period of 24 months from its effective date unless time extensions are granted pursuant to Land Use Ordinance Section 22.64.070 or the land use permit is considered vested. This land use permit is considered to be vested once a construction permit has been issued and substantial site work has been completed. Substantial site work is defined by Land Use Ordinance Section 22.64.080 as site work progressed beyond grading and completion of structural foundations; and construction is occurring above grade.

All conditions of this approval shall be strictly adhered to, within the time frames specified, and in an on-going manner for the life of the project. Failure to comply with these conditions of approval may result in an immediate enforcement action by the Department of Planning and Building. If it is determined that violation(s) of these conditions of approval have occurred, or are occurring, this approval may be revoked pursuant to Section 22.74.160 of the Land Use Ordinance.



DRC 2004-00222



hand Use Category

MISSION DRIVE SAN PABLO RESTANDATION MARTINEZ RANDO WASTY OR STANDARD OF THE STANDARD OF T
HORTH RIVER E
MELLSONA ROAD
026-183-006

DRC 2004-00222



Wild Rose - site

SAN LUIS DEISPO COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING & BUILDING 300 DARRELLONA AVENUE NORTH RIVER ROAD

DRC 2004-00222



SITE

SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING & BUILDING <u>@</u> M. BDRM BDRM 2

PROJECT

DRC 2004-00222



EXHIBIT

Floor Plan

PROJECT .

DRC 2004-00222



EXHIBIT

Elevation



COUNTY OF SAN LUIS OBISPO

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY (KN)

MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION & NOTICE OF DETERMINATION

	ERMINATION NO. <u>ED04-533</u>	DATE: June 21, 2005
PROJECT/ENTITLEMEN	T: Wild Rose Vineyards Minor Use Permit	DRC2004-00222
APPLICANT NAME: ADDRESS: CONTACT PERSON:	Randy Phillips PO BOx 313, Templeton, CA 93465 Same as applicant	Telephone: 805-440-3363
construction of two	ENT: Request by Wild Rose Vineyards for farm support quarters approximately 1,20 bance of approximately 20,000 square feet	0 sq ft in size each. The project will
and South sides of 1000 feet east of	sed project is within the Agriculture land use of Magdalena Drive approximately ¾ of a mi the community of San Miguel. The site is in	the Salinas River planning area.
Co	unty of San Luis Obispo Department of F unty Government Center, Rm. 310 n Luis Obispo, CA 93408-2040	Planning & Building
	RMITTING AGENCIES: None	
ADDITIONAL INFORMA obtained by conta	TION: Additional information pertaining to thin acting the above Lead Agency address or (8)	s environmental determination may be 05) 781-5600.
COUNTY "REQUEST FO	OR REVIEW" PERIOD ENDS AT	5 p.m. on
20-DAY PUBLIC REVIE	W PERIOD begins at the time of public no	otification
otice of Determinations is to advise that the San	on Sta	ate Clearinghouse Noas
otice of Determinations is to advise that the San	on Sta Luis Obispo County_ oved/denied the above described project or	ate Clearinghouse Noas Lead Agency
otice of Determination is is to advise that the San Responsible Agency approade the following determination The project will not hat this project pursuant the approval of the project Findings were made products.	Luis Obispo County	ate Clearinghouse No. as Lead Agency , and has t: A Negative Declaration was prepared for ures were made a condition of the s was not adopted for this project.
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COUNTY OF SAN LUIS OBISPO INITIAL STUDY SUMMARY - ENVIRONMENTAL CHECKLIST

Project Title & No. Wild Rose Vineyards Minor Use Permit DRC 2004-00222 (ED 04-533)

ENVIRONMENTAL FACTORS POTENTIALLY AFFECTED: The proposed project could have "Potentially Significant Impact" for at least one of the environmental factors checked below. Plea refer to the attached pages for discussion on mitigation measures or project revisions to either redu these impacts to less than significant levels or require further study.	ase
☐ Aesthetics ☐ Geology and Soils ☐ Recreation ☐ Agricultural Resources ☐ Hazards/Hazardous Materials ☐ Transportation/Circulation ☐ Air Quality ☐ Noise ☐ Wastewater ☐ Biological Resources ☐ Population/Housing ☐ Water ☐ Cultural Resources ☐ Public Services/Utilities ☐ Land Use	
DETERMINATION: (To be completed by the Lead Agency)	
On the basis of this initial evaluation, the Environmental Coordinator finds that:	
The proposed project COULD NOT have a significant effect on the environment, and NEGATIVE DECLARATION will be prepared.	a k
Although the proposed project could have a significant effect on the environment, there will be a significant effect in this case because revisions in the project have been made by agreed to by the project proponent. A MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION will prepared.	or
The proposed project MAY have a significant effect on the environment, and ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT is required.	an
The proposed project MAY have a "potentially significant impact" or "potentially signific unless mitigated" impact on the environment, but at least one effect 1) has been adequat analyzed in an earlier document pursuant to applicable legal standards, and 2) has be addressed by mitigation measures based on the earlier analysis as described on attach sheets. An ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT is required, but it must analyze only effects that remain to be addressed.	tely een hed
Although the proposed project could have a significant effect on the environment, because potentially significant effects (a) have been analyzed adequately in an earlier EIR NEGATIVE DECLARATION pursuant to applicable standards, and (b) have been avoided mitigated pursuant to that earlier EIR or NEGATIVE DECLARATION, including revisions mitigation measures that are imposed upon the proposed project, nothing further is required	or d or s or
Prepared by (Print) Signature Da	ite
Storen W. Masters Att M. Most Environmental Coordinator 7/15/05 Reviewed by (Print) Signature (for))

Project Environmental Analysis

The County's environmental review process incorporates all of the requirements for completing the Initial Study as required by the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and the CEQA Guidelines. The Initial Study includes staff's on-site inspection of the project site and surroundings and a detailed review of the information in the file for the project. In addition, available background information is reviewed for each project. Relevant information regarding soil types and characteristics, geologic information, significant vegetation and/or wildlife resources, water availability, wastewater disposal services, existing land uses and surrounding land use categories and other information relevant to the environmental review process are evaluated for each project. Exhibit A includes the references used, as well as the agencies or groups that were contacted as a part of the Initial Study. The Environmental Division uses the checklist to summarize the results of the research accomplished during the initial environmental review of the project.

Persons, agencies or organizations interested in obtaining more information regarding the environmental review process for a project should contact the County of San Luis Obispo Environmental Division, Rm. 310, County Government Center, San Luis Obispo, CA, 93408-2040 or call (805) 781-5600.

A. PROJECT

DESCRIPTION: Request by Wild Rose Vineyards for a Minor Use Permit to allow the construction of two farm support quarters approximately 1,200 sq ft in size each. The project will result in the disturbance of approximately 20,000 square feet of a 100 acre parcel. The proposed project is within the Agriculture land use category and is located on the North and South sides of Magdalena Drive approximately ¾ of a mile east of River Road, approximately 1000 feet east of the community of San Miguel. The site is in the Salinas River planning area.

ASSESSOR PARCEL NUMBER(S): 027-231-023, 027-261-002 SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICT # 1 &004

B. EXISTING SETTING

PLANNING AREA: Salinas River, Rural

LAND USE CATEGORY: Agriculture

COMBINING DESIGNATION(S): None

EXISTING USES: vineyards

TOPOGRAPHY: Nearly level

VEGETATION: Grasses

PARCEL SIZE: 100 acres

SURROUNDING LAND USE CATEGORIES AND USES:

North: Agriculture; agricultural uses	East: Agriculture; agricultural uses
South: Agriculture; agricultural uses	West: Agriculture; agricultural uses

C. ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS

During the Initial Study process, several issues were identified as having potentially significant

environmental effects (see following Initial Study). Those potentially significant items associated with the proposed uses can be minimized to less than significant levels.

COUNTY OF SAN LUIS OBISPO INITIAL STUDY CHECKLIST

1.	AESTHETICS - Will the project:	Potentially Significant	Impact can & will be mitigated	Insignificant Impact	Not Applicable		
a)	Create an aesthetically incompatible site open to public view?						
b)	Introduce a use within a scenic view open to public view?						
c)	Change the visual character of an area?						
d)	Create glare or night lighting, which may affect surrounding areas?			\boxtimes			
e)	Impact unique geological or physical features?						
f)	Other:						
Miti	mpact. No significant visual impacts are expected to occur. Mitigation/Conclusion. No mitigation measures are necessary. 2. AGRICULTURAL RESOURCES Potentially Impact can Insignificant Not						
	- Will the project:	Significant	& will be mitigated	Impact	Applicable		
a)	Convert prime agricultural land to non-agricultural use?			\boxtimes			
b)	Impair agricultural use of other property or result in conversion to other uses?						
c)	Conflict with existing zoning or Williamson Act program?			\boxtimes			
d)	Other:						

Setting. The project includes approximately 100 acres of vineyard. Approximately 40 acres is located off site on Wellsona Road. The remaining 60 acres is made up of 6 underlying parcels located on Magdelena Road. These 6 parcels are currently under a Williamson Act contract that has been approved for nonrenewal and will expire in 2013. The project entails the development of two farm support quarters for the existing vineyard operation. The applicant recently received approval for four other farmworker residences. The two residences being proposed will be the fifth and six residences constructed on the six underlying parcels.

The soil types include 59 acres of Nacimiento-Los Osos complex IV irrigated and non irrigated, and 1 acres of Arbuckle-San Ysidro complex III irrigated and IV nonirrigated.

Impact. The project will impact approximately 1 acre of existing vineyards which is not considered a significant impacts to agricultural resources. The Agricultural Commissioner's Office has reviewed the proposal and finds that there will be no significant adverse impacts to agricultural resources or operations. They support the development of farm worker housing in order to provide for the health, safety, and welfare of agricultural employees. The Land use Ordinance allows one farm support residence for every 20 acres of irrigated vineyard.

Mitigation/Conclusion. No mitigation measures are necessary.

3.	AIR QUALITY - Will the project:	Potentially Significant	Impact can & will be mitigated	Insignificant Impact	Not Applicable
a)	Violate any state or federal ambient air quality standard, or exceed air quality emission thresholds as established by County Air Pollution Control District?				
b)	Expose any sensitive receptor to substantial air pollutant concentrations?				
c)	Create or subject individuals to objectionable odors?				
d)	Be inconsistent with the District's Clean Air Plan?				
e)	Other:				

Setting. The Air Pollution Control District (APCD) has developed the CEQA Air Quality Handbook to evaluate project specific impacts and help determine if air quality mitigation measures are needed, or if potentially significant impacts could result. To evaluate long-term emissions, cumulative effects, and establish countywide programs to reach acceptable air quality levels, a Clean Air Plan has been adopted (prepared by APCD).

Impact. As proposed, the project will result in the disturbance of approximately 20,000 square feet. This will result in the creation of construction dust, as well as short- and long-term vehicle emissions. Based on Table 1-1 of the CEQA Air Quality Handbook, the project will result in less than 10 lbs./day of pollutants, which is below thresholds warranting any mitigation. The project is consistent with the general level of development anticipated and projected in the Clean Air Plan. No significant air quality

impacts are expected to occur.

Mitigation/Conclusion. No mitigation measures are necessary.

4.	BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES - Will the project:	Potentially Significant	Impact can & will be mitigated	Insignificant Impact	Not Applicable
a)	Result in a loss of unique or special status species or their habitats?		\boxtimes		
b)	Reduce the extent, diversity or quality of native or other important vegetation?				
c)	Impact wetland or riparian habitat?			\boxtimes	
d)	Introduce barriers to movement of resident or migratory fish or wildlife species, or factors, which could hinder the normal activities of wildlife?				
e)	Other:				

Setting. The project site was visited on May 11, 2005. The property is gently rolling habitat east of the Salinas River. The vegetation on the site consists of planted vineyards. The Natural Diversity Database identified this area as important habitat for the San Joaquin Kit Fox, a federally listed endangered species and a state listed threatened species.

Impact. A San Joaquin Kit Fox habitat evaluation form was prepared by V. Troutman, Biologist, on May 11, 2005. The evaluation form was reviewed by Bob Stafford of the California Department of Fish and Game. The evaluation concluded that 0.5 acres of kit fox habitat will be affected by the proposed project.

Mitigation/Conclusion. Mr. Stafford recommended that a specific measure be implemented to effectively mitigate impacts to San Joaquin kit fox at a ratio of 2:1. The applicant has signed a Developer's Statement agreeing to the mitigation at a 2:1 ratio including retaining a biologist for a preconstruction survey and monitoring activities and implement cautionary construction measures. These mitigation measures are listed in detail in Exhibit B Mitigation Summary Table.

5. CULTURAL RESOURCES - Potentially Impact can Insignificant Not Significant & will be mitigated Impact Applicable

5.	CULTURAL RESOURCES - Will the project:	Potentially Significant	Impact can & will be mitigated	Insignificant Impact	Not Applicable
a)	Disturb pre-historic resources?				
b)	Disturb historic resources?			\boxtimes	
c)	Disturb paleontological resources?			\boxtimes	
d)	Other:				
	ng. The project is located in an area tures are present and no paleontological re				No historic
of ph	ct. The project is not located in an area the ysical features typically associated with property. Impacts to historical	ehistoric occup	pation. No evi	idence of cultur	al materials
_	ation/Conclusion. No significant culturation measures are necessary	al resource in	npacts are ex	rpected to occ	cur, and no
6.	GEOLOGY AND SOILS - Will the project:	Potentially Significant	lmpact can & will be mitigated	Insignificant Impact	Not Applicable
a)	Result in exposure to or production of unstable earth conditions, such as landslides, earthquakes, liquefaction, ground failure, land subsidence or other similar hazards?				
b)	Be within a California Geological Survey "Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zone"?			\boxtimes	
c)	Result in soil erosion, topographic changes, loss of topsoil or unstable soil conditions from project-related improvements, such as vegetation removal, grading, excavation, or fill?				
d)	Change rates of soil absorption, or amount or direction of surface runoff?				
e)	Include structures located on expansive soils?				
f)	Change the drainage patterns where substantial on- or off-site sedimentation/ erosion or flooding				

6.	GEOLOGY AND SOILS - Will the project:	Potentially Significant	Impact can & will be mitigated	Insignificant Impact	Not Applicable
g)	Involve activities within the 100-year flood zone?			\boxtimes	
h)	Be inconsistent with the goals and policies of the County's Safety Element relating to Geologic and Seismic Hazards?				
i)	Preclude the future extraction of valuable mineral resources?				
j)	Other:			\boxtimes	
consi consi proje	lopment is outside of the Geologic Studdered moderate. The liquefaction dered moderate. No active faulting is ct is not within a known area containing secondary.	dy Area desigron potential known to exiserpentine or ultr	nation. The during a g t on or near t amafic rock or	landslide risk round-shaking he subject pro soils.	potential is event is perty. The
The of the normal survey of the second survey of th	NAGE – The area proposed for developer closest creek (a tributary of the Salinas Forthern edge of the property. As describely, the soil is considered not well drained to the LUO (Sec. 22.52.080) includes a preage impacts. When required, this plan we the retention or detention basins, or installing to show that the increased surface runder flows.	River) from the poed in the Natud. For areas whovision to preparould need to a not surface water	proposed dev iral Resource nere drainage are a drainage ddress measu er flow dissipa	elopment is loo Conservation S is identified as plan to minimi ires such as: o ters. This plan	cated along Service Soil a potential ze potential constructing would also
slope) surfa	MENTATION AND EROSION – The soil to the so	ope). As descr	ibed in the NF	RCS Soil Surve	, the soil
Impa	ct. As proposed, the project will result in	the disturbance	e of approxima	tely 20,000 squ	uare feet.
_	ation/Conclusion. There is no evidence ance or codes are needed.	e that measures	s above what	will already be	required by
7.	HAZARDS & HAZARDOUS MATERIALS - Will the project:	Potentially Significant	lmpact can & will be mitigated	Insignificant Impact	Not Applicable
a)	Result in a risk of explosion or release of hazardous substances (e.g. oil, pesticides, chemicals, radiation) or exposure of people to hazardous substances?				

7.	HAZARDS & HAZARDOUS MATERIALS - Will the project:	Potentially Significant	Impact can & will be mitigated	Insignificant Impact	Not Applicable
b)	Interfere with an emergency response or evacuation plan?				
c)	Expose people to safety risk associated with airport flight pattern?				
d)	Increase fire hazard risk or expose people or structures to high fire hazard conditions?				
e)	Create any other health hazard or potential hazard?			\boxtimes	
f)	Other:	_			
Impa a sig	ect is not within a high severity risk area for act. The project does not propose the use inificant fire safety risk. The project is not a gation/Conclusion. No significant impactipated, and no mitigation measures are necessity.	e of hazardous expected to cor cts as a result	materials. The offlict with any r	e project does i egional evacua	not present tion plan.
8.	NOISE - Will the project:	Potentially Significant	Impact can & will be mitigated	Insignificant Impact	Not Applicable
a)	Expose people to noise levels that exceed the County Noise Element thresholds?				
b)	Generate increases in the ambient noise levels for adjoining areas?				
c)	Expose people to severe noise or vibration?				
d)	Other:				

Setting. The project is not within close proximity of loud noise sources, and will not conflict with any sensitive noise receptors (e.g., residences).

Impact. The project is not expected to generate loud noises, nor conflict with the surrounding uses.

Mitigation/Conclusion. No significant noise impacts are anticipated, and no mitigation measures are necessary.

9.	POPULATION/HOUSING - Will the project:	Potentially Significant	Impact can & will be mitigated	Insignificant Impact	Not Applicable
a)	Induce substantial growth in an area either directly or indirectly (e.g., through projects in an undeveloped area or extension of major infrastructure)?				
b)	Displace existing housing or people, requiring construction of replacement housing elsewhere?			\boxtimes	
c)	Create the need for substantial new housing in the area?				
d)	Use substantial amount of fuel or energy?				
e)	Other:				
	pation/Conclusion. No significant population measures are necessary. PUBLIC SERVICES/UTILITIES - Will the project have an effect upon, or result in the need for new or	Potentially Significant	Impact can & will be mitigated	Insignificant Impact	Not Applicable
	altered public services in any of the following areas:				
a)	Fire protection?		\boxtimes		
b)	Police protection (e.g., Sheriff, CHP)?				
c)	Schools?				
d)	Roads?				
e)	Solid Wastes?			\boxtimes	
f)	Other public facilities?		\boxtimes		
g)	Other:				

Setting. The project area is served by the County Sheriff's Department and CDF/County Fire as the

primary emergency responders. The closest CDF fire station (Meridian) is approximately 14 miles to the south. The closest Sheriff substation is in Templeton, which is approximately 15 miles from the proposed project. The project is located in the San Miguel Joint Union Elementary School District.

Impact. The project's direct and cumulative impacts are within the general assumptions of allowed use for the subject property that was used to estimate the fees in place.

Mitigation/Conclusion. Public facility (county) and school (State Government Code 65995 et sec) fee programs have been adopted to address the project's direct and cumulative impacts, and will reduce the impacts to less than significant levels.

11.	RECREATION - Will the project:	Potentially Significant	Impact can & will be mitigated	Insignificant Impact	Not Applicable		
a)	Increase the use or demand for parks or other recreation opportunities?						
b)	Affect the access to trails, parks or other recreation opportunities?			\boxtimes			
c)	Other						
Setti The p	ng. The County Trails Plan shows that a poroject is not proposed in a location that wi	otential trail d I affect any tra	oes not go thro ail, park or othe	ough the proposer recreational re	ed project. esource.		
-	ict . The proposed project will not create urces.	a significant	need for addit	ional park or re	ecreational		
_	Mitigation/Conclusion . No significant recreation impacts are anticipated, and no mitigation measures are necessary.						
12.	TRANSPORTATION/ CIRCULATION - Will the project:	Potentially Significant	Impact can & will be mitigated	Insignificant Impact	Not Applicable		
12.			& will be	•			
	CIRCULATION - Will the project: Increase vehicle trips to local or		& will be	•			
a)	CIRCULATION - Will the project: Increase vehicle trips to local or areawide circulation system? Reduce existing "Levels of Service"		& will be	•			
a) b)	CIRCULATION - Will the project: Increase vehicle trips to local or areawide circulation system? Reduce existing "Levels of Service" on public roadway(s)? Create unsafe conditions on public roadways (e.g., limited access, design features, sight distance,		& will be	•			

12.	TRANSPORTATION/	Potentially	Impact can	Insignificant	Not			
12.	CIRCULATION - Will the project:	Significant	& will be mitigated	Impact	Applicable			
f)	Result in inadequate internal traffic circulation?							
g)	Conflict with adopted policies, plans, or programs supporting alternative transportation (e.g., pedestrian access, bus turnouts, bicycle racks, etc.)?							
h)	Result in a change in air traffic patterns that may result in substantial safety risks?							
i)	Other:							
will n	Impact. The proposed project is two farm support residence. This small amount of additional traffic will not result in a significant change to the existing road service or traffic safety levels. Mitigation/Conclusion. No significant traffic impacts were identified, and no mitigation measures are necessary.							
	ssary. WASTEWATER - Will the	Potentially	Impact can	Insignificant	Not			
10.	project:	Significant	& will be mitigated	Impact	Applicable			
a)	Violate waste discharge requirements or Central Coast Basin Plan criteria for wastewater systems?							
b)	Change the quality of surface or ground water (e.g., nitrogen-loading, daylighting)?							
c)	Adversely affect community wastewater service provider?							
d)	Other:							

Setting. As described in the NRCS Soil Survey (see Geology section for soil types), the main limitations for on-site wastewater systems relates to: slow percolation, steep slopes, shallow depth to bedrock. These limitations are summarized as follows:

Shallow Depth to Bedrock – indicates that there may not be sufficient soil depth to provide adequate soil filtering of effluent before reaching bedrock. Once effluent reaches bedrock, chances increase for

the effluent to infiltrate cracks that could lead directly to groundwater sources or near wells without adequate filtering, or allow effluent to daylight where bedrock is exposed to the earth's surface. To comply with the Central Coast Basin Plan, additional information is needed prior to issuance of a building permit, such as borings at leach line locations, to show that there will be adequate separation between leach line and bedrock.

Steep Slopes – where portions of the soil unit contain slopes steep enough to result in potential daylighting of wastewater effluent. To comply with the Central Coast Basin Plan, additional information is needed prior to issuance of a building permit, such as slope comparison with leach line depths, to show that there is no potential of effluent "daylighting" to the ground surface.

Slow Percolation – is where fluid percolates too slowly through the soil for the natural processes to effectively break down the effluent into harmless components. The Basin Plan identifies the percolation rate should be less than 120 minutes per inch. To achieve compliance with the Central Coast Basin Plan, additional information will be needed prior to issuance of a building permit that shows the leach area can adequately percolate to achieve this threshold.

Impact. The project proposes to use an on-site system as its means to dispose wastewater. Based on the proposed plans, adequate area appears available for an on-site system.

Mitigation/Conclusion. (On-site) The leach lines shall be located at least 100 feet from any private well and at least 200 from any community/public well. Prior to building permit issuance, the septic system will be evaluated in greater detail to insure compliance with the Central Coast Basin Plan for any constraints listed above, and will not be approved if Basin Plan criteria cannot be met.

14.	WATER - Will the project:	Potentially Significant	Impact can & will be mitigated	Insignificant Impact	Not Applicable
a)	Violate any water quality standards?				
b)	Discharge into surface waters or otherwise alter surface water quality (e.g., turbidity, temperature, dissolved oxygen, etc.)?				
c)	Change the quality of groundwater (e.g., saltwater intrusion, nitrogenloading, etc.)?				
d)	Change the quantity or movement of available surface or ground water?			\boxtimes	
e)	Adversely affect community water service provider?			\boxtimes	
f)	Other:				

Setting. The project proposes to use an on-site well as its water source Based on available information, the proposed water source is not known to have any significant availability or quality problems.

The topography of the project is nearly level
The closest creek (a tributary of the Salinas River)

from the proposed development is located along the northern edge of the property. As described in the NRCS Soil Survey, the soil surface is considered to have moderate erodibility.

Impact. As proposed, the project will result in the construction of two farm support residences.

Mitigation/Conclusion. Since no potentially significant water quantity or quality impacts were identified, no specific measures above standard requirements have been determined necessary. Standard drainage and erosion control measures will be required for the proposed project and will provide sufficient measures to adequately protect surface water quality.

15.	LAND USE - Will the project:	Inconsistent	Potentially Inconsistent	Consistent	Not Applicable
a)	Be potentially inconsistent with land use, policy/regulation (e.g., general plan [county land use element and ordinance], local coastal plan, specific plan, Clean Air Plan, etc.) adopted to avoid or mitigate for environmental effects?				
b)	Be potentially inconsistent with any habitat or community conservation plan?				
c)	Be potentially inconsistent with adopted agency environmental plans or policies with jurisdiction over the project?				
d)	Be potentially incompatible with surrounding land uses?			\boxtimes	
e)	Other:				

Setting/Impact. Surrounding uses are identified on Page 2 of the Initial Study. The proposed project was reviewed for consistency with policy and/or regulatory documents relating to the environment and appropriate land use (e.g., County Land Use Ordinance, Local Coastal Plan, etc.). Referrals were sent to outside agencies to review for policy consistencies (e.g., CDF for Fire Code, APCD for Clean Air Plan, etc.). The project was found to be consistent with these documents (refer also to Exhibit A on reference documents used).

The project is not within or adjacent to a Habitat Conservation Plan area. The project is consistent or compatible with the surrounding uses as summarized on page 2 of this Initial Study.

Mitigation/Conclusion. No inconsistencies were identified and therefore no additional measures above what will already be required was determined necessary.

16.	MANDATORY FINDINGS OF SIGNIFICANCE - Will the project:	Potentially Significant	Impact can & will be mitigated	Insignificant Impact	Not Applicable
a)	Have the potential to degrade the qualical substantially reduce the habitat of a firsh or wildlife population to drop below threaten to eliminate a plant or animal number or restrict the range of a rare or eliminate important examples of the California history or prehistory?	sh or wildlife to w self-sustain community, no or endangered	species, caus ning levels, reduce the d plant or anii		
b)	Have impacts that are individually limit considerable? ("Cumulatively considerable incremental effects of a project are connection with the effects of past procurrent projects, and the effects of probable future projects)	erable" mean: nsiderable wh	s that the nen viewed in		
c)	Have environmental effects which will adverse effects on human beings, either indirectly?		ntial		
Cou	further information on CEQA or the couunty's web site at "www.sloplanning.org'rironmental Resources Evaluation Sydelines/" for information about the California	" under "Envi stem at "ht	ronmental Re tp://ceres.ca.g	view", or the	California

Exhibit A - Initial Study References and Agency Contacts

The County Planning or Environmental Division have contacted various agencies for their comments on the proposed project. With respect to the subject application, the following have been contacted (marked with an \boxtimes) and when a response was made, it is either attached or in the application file:

Cont	acted Agency	Res	ponse
\boxtimes	County Public Works Department	Atta	ched
	County Environmental Health Division	Not	Applicable
\boxtimes	County Agricultural Commissioner's Office	Atta	ched
	County Airport Manager	Not	Applicable
	Airport Land Use Commission	Not	Applicable
	Air Pollution Control District	Not	Applicable
	County Sheriff's Department	Not	Applicable
	Regional Water Quality Control Board	Not	Applicable
	CA Coastal Commission	Not	Applicable
\boxtimes	CA Department of Fish and Game	Atta	ched
	CA Department of Forestry	Not	Applicable
	CA Department of Transportation	Not	Applicable
	Community Service District	Not	Applicable
	Other	Not	Applicable
	Other		Applicable
	** "No comment" or "No concerns"-type response	es are us	sually not attached
⊠ Cour □ □ □ □	Project File for the Subject Application aty documents Airport Land Use Plans Annual Resource Summary Report Building and Construction Ordinance Coastal Policies Framework for Planning (Coastal & Inland) General Plan (Inland & Coastal), including all maps & elements; more pertinent elements		Area Plan and Update EIR Circulation Study er documents Archaeological Resources Map Area of Critical Concerns Map Areas of Special Biological Importance Map California Natural Species Diversity
	considered include: Agriculture & Open Space Element Energy Element Environment Plan (Conservation, Historic and Esthetic Elements) Housing Element Noise Element Parks & Recreation Element Safety Element Land Use Ordinance Real Property Division Ordinance Trails Plan Solid Waste Management Plan		Database Clean Air Plan Fire Hazard Severity Map Flood Hazard Maps Natural Resources Conservation Service Soil Survey for SLO County Regional Transportation Plan Uniform Fire Code Water Quality Control Plan (Central Coast Basin – Region 3) GIS mapping layers (e.g., habitat, streams, contours, etc.)
<u> </u>	•		Other

Exhibit B - Mitigation Summary Table

A San Joaquin Kit Fox habitat evaluation form was prepared by V. Troutman, Biologist, on May 11, 2005. The evaluation form was reviewed by Bob Stafford of the California Department of Fish and Game. The evaluation concluded that 0.5 acres of kit fox habitat will be affected by the proposed project. The project earned a score of 61 on the evaluation, which requires that all impacts be mitigated at a ratio of 2 acres conserved for each acre impacted 2:1. Total compensatory mitigation required for the project is 1 acres, based on 2 times 0.5 acres impacted. The mitigation options identified in BR-1 through BR-11 apply to the proposed project only; should the project change, the mitigation obligation may also change, and a reevaluation of the mitigation measures would be required.

- BR-1 Prior to issuance of grading and/or construction permits, the applicant shall submit evidence to the County of San Luis Obispo, Department of Planning and Building Environmental Resource and Management Division (County) (see contact information below) that states that one or a combination of the following four San Joaquin kit fox mitigation measures has been implemented:
- a. Provide for the protection in perpetuity, through acquisition of fee or conservation easement of suitable habitat in the kit fox corridor area (e.g. within the San Luis Obispo County kit fox habitat area, northwest of Highway 58), either on-site or off-site, and provide for a non-wasting endowment to provide for management and monitoring of the property in perpetuity. Lands to be conserved shall be subject to the review and approval of the California Department of Fish and Game (Department) and the County.

This mitigation alternative (a.), requires that all aspects of this program must be in place before County permit issuance or initiation of any ground disturbing activities.

b. Deposit funds into an approved in-lieu fee program, which would provide for the protection in perpetuity of suitable habitat in the kit fox corridor area within San Luis Obispo County, and provide for a non-wasting endowment for management and monitoring of the property in perpetuity.

Mitigation alternative (b) above, can be completed by providing funds to The Nature Conservancy (TNC), pursuant to the Voluntary Fee-based Compensatory Mitigation Program (Program). The Program was established in agreement between the Department and TNC to preserve San Joaquin kit fox habitat, and to provide a voluntary mitigation alternative to project proponents who must mitigate the impacts of projects in accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). The fee, payable to "The Nature Conservancy", would be based on the total area of disturbance from project activities multiplied by \$2500 per acre. This fee must be paid after the Department provides written notification identifying your mitigation options but prior to County permit issuance and initiation of any ground disturbing activities.

c. Purchase credits in a Department-approved conservation bank, which would provide for the protection in perpetuity of suitable habitat within the kit fox corridor area and provide for a non-wasting endowment for management and monitoring of the property in perpetuity.

At this time, there is no approved conservation bank that is operational in San Luis Obispo County. A conservation bank is expected to be operational in the near future. Purchase of credits must be completed prior to County permit issuance and initiation of any ground disturbing activities.

d. If none of the above measures (a, b, or c) are available, the applicant may enter into a Mitigation Agreement with the Department, including depositing of funds into an escrow account (or other means of securing funds acceptable to the Department) which would ensure the protection in

perpetuity of suitable habitat within the kit fox corridor area and provide for a non-wasting endowment for management and monitoring in perpetuity. The Department can provide a draft agreement to review; a signed Mitigation Agreement shall be submitted to the County prior to County permit issuance and initiation of any ground disturbing activities.

- BR-2 **Prior to issuance of grading and/or construction permits**, the applicant shall provide evidence to the County that they have retained a qualified biologist acceptable to the County Division of Environmental and Resource Management. The retained biologist shall perform the following monitoring activities:
- a. Prior to issuance of grading and/or construction permits and within 30 days prior to initiation of site disturbance and/or construction, the biologist shall conduct a pre-activity (i.e. preconstruction) survey for known or potential kit fox dens and submit a letter to the County reporting the date the survey was conducted, the survey protocol, survey results, and what measures were necessary (and completed), as applicable, to address any kit fox activity within the project limits.
- b. The qualified biologist shall conduct weekly site visits during site-disturbance activities (i.e. grading, disking, excavation, stock piling of dirt or gravel, etc.) that proceed longer than 14 days, for the purpose of monitoring compliance with required Mitigation Measures BR-3 through BR11. Site-disturbance activities lasting up to 14 days do not require weekly monitoring by the biologist unless observations of kit fox or their dens are made on-site or the qualified biologist recommends monitoring for some other reason (see BR-2-c3). When weekly monitoring is required, the biologist shall submit weekly monitoring reports to the County.
- c. **Prior to or during project activities,** if any observations are made of San Joaquin kit fox, or any known or potential San Joaquin kit fox dens are discovered within the project limits, the qualified biologist shall re-assess the probability of incidental take (e.g. harm or death) to kit fox. At the time the den is discovered, the qualified biologist shall contact the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the Department for guidance on possible additional kit fox protection measures to implement and whether or not a Federal and/or State incidental take permit is needed. If a potential den is encountered during construction, all work shall stop until such time the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and Department determine that it is appropriate to resume work.

If incidental take of kit fox during project activities is possible, **before project activities commence**, the applicant must consult with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the Department (see contact information below). The results of this consultation may require the applicant to obtain a Federal and/or State permit for incidental take during project activities. The applicant should be aware that the presence of kit foxes or known or potential kit fox dens at the project site could result in further delays of project activities.

In addition, the qualified biologist shall implement the following measures:

1. Within 30 days prior to initiation of site disturbance and/or construction, fenced exclusion zones shall be established around all known and potential kit fox dens. Exclusion zone fencing shall consist of either large flagged stakes connected by rope or cord, or survey laths or wooden stakes prominently flagged with survey ribbon. Each exclusion zone shall be roughly circular in configuration with a radius of the following distance measured outward from the den or burrow entrances:

a)Potential kit fox den: 50 feet b)Known kit fox den: 100 feet c)Kit fox pupping den: 150 feet

- 2. All foot and vehicle traffic, as well as all construction activities, including storage of supplies and equipment, shall remain outside of exclusion zones. Exclusion zones shall be maintained until all project-related disturbances have been terminated, and then shall be removed.
- 3. If kit foxes or known or potential kit fox dens are found on site, daily monitoring during ground disturbing activities shall be required by a qualified biologist.
- BR-3 Prior to issuance of grading and/or construction permits, or approval of any improvement plans related to map recordation, the applicant shall clearly delineate as a note on the project plans, that: "Speeds signs of 25 mph maximum (or lower) shall be posted for all construction traffic, to minimize the probability of road mortality of the San Joaquin kit fox." Speed limit signs shall be installed on the project site within 30 days prior to initiation of site disturbance and/or construction.

In addition, prior to permit issuance and initiation of any ground disturbing activities, or any grading associated with map recordation, conditions BR-3 through BR-11 of the Developer's Statement/Conditions of Approval shall be clearly delineated on project plans.

- BR-4 **During the site disturbance and/or construction phase**, grading and construction activities after dusk shall be prohibited unless coordinated through the County, during which additional kit fox mitigation measures may be required.
- BR-5 Prior to issuance of grading and/or construction permit, and within 30 days prior to initiation of site disturbance and/or construction, all personnel associated with the project shall attend a worker education training program, conducted by a qualified biologist, to avoid or reduce impacts on sensitive biological resources (i.e. San Joaquin kit fox). At a minimum, as the program relates to the kit fox, the training shall include the kit fox's life history, all mitigation measures specified by the county, as well as any related biological report(s) prepared for the project. The applicant shall notify the County shortly prior to this meeting. A kit fox fact sheet shall also be developed prior to the training program, and distributed at the training program to all contractors, employers and other personnel involved with the construction of the project.
- BR-6 **During the site-disturbance and/or construction phase,** to prevent entrapment of the San Joaquin kit fox, all excavation, steep-walled holes or trenches in excess of two feet in depth shall be covered at the close of each working day by plywood or similar materials, or provided with one or more escape ramps constructed of earth fill or wooden planks. Trenches shall also be inspected for entrapped kit fox each morning prior to onset of field activities and immediately prior to covering with plywood at the end of each working day. Before such holes or trenches are filled, they shall be thoroughly inspected for entrapped kit fox. Any kit fox so discovered shall be allowed to escape before field activities resume, or removed from the trench or hole by a qualified biologist and allowed to escape unimpeded.
- BR-7 **During the site-disturbance and/or construction phase,** any pipes, culverts, or similar structures with a diameter of four inches or greater, stored overnight at the project site shall be thoroughly inspected for trapped San Joaquin kit foxes before the subject pipe is subsequently buried, capped, or otherwise used or moved in any way. If during the construction phase a kit fox is discovered inside a pipe, that section of pipe will not be moved, or if necessary, be moved only once to remove it from the path of activity, until the kit fox has escaped.
- BR-8 **During the site-disturbance and/or construction phase,** all food-related trash items such as wrappers, cans, bottles, and food scraps generated shall be disposed of in closed containers only and regularly removed from the site. Food items may attract San Joaquin kit foxes onto the project site,

consequently exposing such animals to increased risk of injury or mortality. No deliberate feeding of wildlife shall be allowed.

BR-9 **Prior to, during, and after the site-disturbance and/or construction phase,** use of pesticides or herbicides shall be in compliance with all local, state and federal regulations. This is necessary to minimize the probability of primary or secondary poisoning of endangered species utilizing adjacent habitats, and the depletion of prey upon which San Joaquin kit foxes depend.

BR-10 **During the site-disturbance and/or construction phase,** any contractor or employee that inadvertently kills or injures a San Joaquin kit fox or who finds any such animal either dead, injured, or entrapped shall be required to report the incident immediately to the applicant and County. In the event that any observations are made of injured or dead kit fox, the applicant shall immediately notify the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the Department by telephone (see contact information below). In addition, formal notification shall be provided in writing within three working days of the finding of any such animal(s). Notification shall include the date, time, location and circumstances of the incident. Any threatened or endangered species found dead or injured shall be turned over immediately to the Department for care, analysis, or disposition.

BR-11 **Prior to final inspection, or occupancy, whichever comes first,** should any long internal or perimeter fencing be proposed or installed, the applicant shall do the following to provide for kit fox passage:

- a. If a wire strand/pole design is used, the lowest strand shall be no closer to the ground than 12".
- b. If a more solid wire mesh fence is used, 8" x 12" openings near the ground shall be provided every 100 yards.

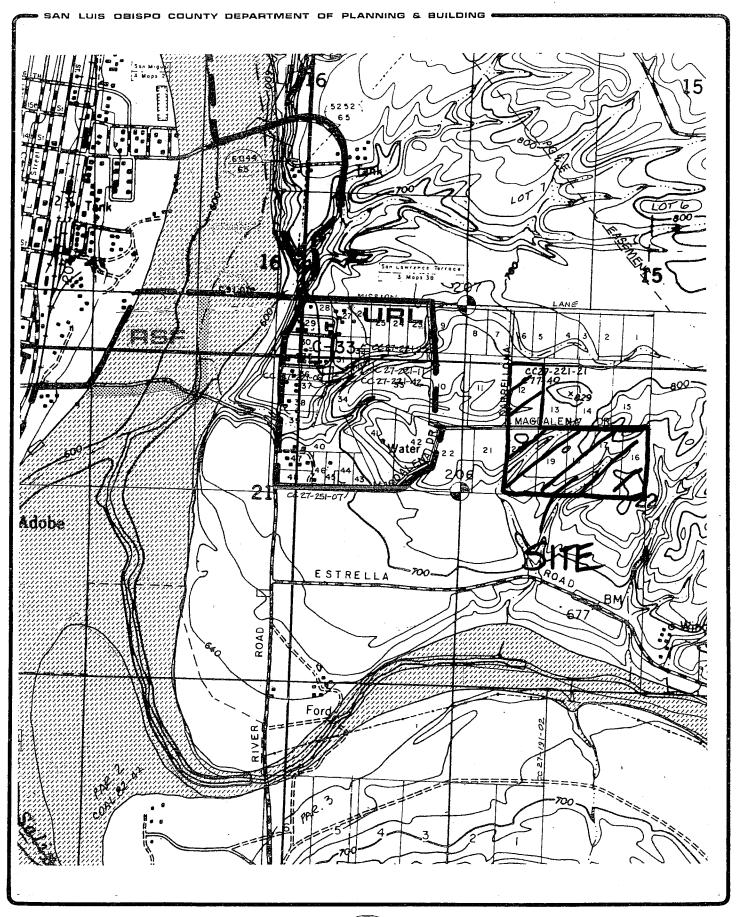
Upon fence installation, the applicant shall notify the County to verify proper installation. Any fencing constructed after issuance of a final permit shall follow the above guidelines.

Contact Information

California Department of Fish and Game Central Coast Region P.O. Box 47 Yountville, CA 94599 (805) 528-8670 (805) 772-4318

County of San Luis Obispo
Department of Planning and Building
Division of Environmental and Resource Management
County Government Center, Room 310
San Luis Obispo, CA 93408
ATTN: Ms. Julie Eliason
(805) 781-5029

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Ventura Field Office 2493 Portola Road, Suite B Ventura, CA 93003 (805) 644-1766



DRC 2004-00222



Land Use Category

SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING & BUILDING 2002 DARRELLONA AVENUE

Wild Rose



DRC 2004 - 00222

Date: June 22, 2005

DEVELOPER'S STATEMENT FOR WILD ROSE VINEYARD DRC 2004-00222

The applicant agrees to incorporate the following measures into the project. These measures become a part of the project description and therefore become a part of the record of action upon which the environmental determination is based. All development activity must occur in strict compliance with the following mitigation measures. These measures shall be perpetual and run with the land. These measures are binding on all successors in interest of the subject property.

Note: The items contained in the boxes labeled "Monitoring" describe the County procedures to be used to ensure compliance with the mitigation measures.

A San Joaquin Kit Fox habitat evaluation form was prepared by V. Troutman, Biologist, on May 11, 2005. The evaluation form was reviewed by Bob Stafford of the California Department of Fish and Game. The evaluation concluded that 0.5 acres of kit fox habitat will be affected by the proposed project. The project earned a score of 61 on the evaluation, which requires that all impacts be mitigated at a ratio of 2 acres conserved for each acre impacted 2:1. Total compensatory mitigation required for the project is 1 acres, based on 2 times 0.5 acres impacted. The mitigation options identified in BR-1 through BR-11 apply to the proposed project only; should the project change, the mitigation obligation may also change, and a reevaluation of the mitigation measures would be required.

- BR-1 Prior to issuance of grading and/or construction permits, the applicant shall submit evidence to the County of San Luis Obispo, Department of Planning and Building, Environmental and Resource Management Division (County) (see contact information below) that states that one or a combination of the following four San Joaquin kit fox mitigation measures has been implemented:
 - a. Provide for the protection in perpetuity, through acquisition of fee or a conservation easement of a number of acres to be determined by future construction permits of suitable habitat in the kit fox corridor area (e.g. within the San Luis Obispo County kit fox habitat area, northwest of Highway 58), either on-site or off-site, and provide for a non-wasting endowment to provide for management and monitoring of the property in perpetuity. Lands to be conserved shall be subject to the review and approval of the California Department of Fish and Game (Department) and the County.

This mitigation alternative (a.), requires that all aspects if this program must be in place before County permit issuance or initiation of any ground disturbing activities.

b. Deposit funds into an approved in-lieu fee program, which would provide for the protection in perpetuity of suitable habitat in the kit fox corridor area within San Luis Obispo County, and provide for a non-wasting endowment for management and monitoring of the property in perpetuity.

Mitigation alternative (b) above, can be completed by providing funds to The Nature Conservancy (TNC) pursuant to the Voluntary Fee-Based Compensatory Mitigation Program (Program). The Program was established in agreement between the Department and TNC to preserve San Joaquin kit fox habitat, and to provide a voluntary mitigation alternative to project proponents who must mitigate the impacts of projects in accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). The fee, payable to "The Nature Conservancy", will be

based on a \$2500.00 per disturbed acre. This fee must be paid after the Department provides written notification about your mitigation options but prior to County permit issuance and initiation of any ground disturbing activities.

c. Purchase credits based on the amount of in a Department-approved conservation bank, which would provide for the protection in perpetuity of suitable habitat within the kit fox corridor area and provide for a non-wasting endowment for management and monitoring of the property in perpetuity.

At this time, there is no approved conservation bank that is operational in San Luis Obispo County. A conservation bank is expected to be operational in the near future. Purchase of credits must be completed prior to County permit issuance and initiation of any ground disturbing activities.

d. If none of the above measures (a, b, or c) are available, the applicant may enter into a Mitigation Agreement with the Department, including depositing of funds into an escrow account (or other means of securing funds acceptable to the Department) which would ensure the protection in perpetuity of an a amount to determined once grading and/or building permits are applied for of suitable habitat within the kit fox corridor area and provide for a non-wasting endowment for management and monitoring in perpetuity. The Department can provide a draft agreement to review; a signed Mitigation Agreement shall be submitted prior to County permit issuance and initiation of any ground disturbing activities.

Monitoring: Required prior to issuance of a grading and/or construction permit. Compliance will be verified by the County Division of Environmental and Resource Management.

- BR-2 **Prior to issuance of grading and/or construction permits**, the applicant shall provide evidence that they have retained a qualified biologist acceptable to the County. The retained biologist shall perform the following monitoring activities:
 - a. Prior to issuance of grading and/or construction permits and within 30 days prior to initiation of site disturbance and/or construction, the biologist shall conduct a pre-activity (i.e. pre-construction) survey for known or potential kit fox dens and submit a letter to the County reporting the date the survey was conducted, the survey protocol, survey results, and what measures were necessary (and completed), as applicable, to address any kit fox activity within the project limits.
 - b. The qualified biologist shall conduct weekly site visits during site-disturbance activities (i.e. grading, disking, excavation, stock piling of dirt or gravel, etc.) that proceed longer than 14 days, for the purpose of monitoring compliance with required Mitigation Measures BR-3 through BR11. Site- disturbance activities lasting up to 14 days do not require weekly monitoring by the biologist unless observations of kit fox or their dens are made on-site or the qualified biologist recommends monitoring for some other reason (see BR-2-c3). When weekly monitoring is required, the biologist shall submit weekly monitoring reports to the County.
 - c. Prior to or during project activities, if any observations are made of San Joaquin Kit fox, or any known or potential San Joaquin kit fox dens are discovered within the project limits, the qualified biologist shall re-assess the probability of incidental take (e.g. harm or death) to kit fox. At the time a den is discovered, the qualified biologist shall contact the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the Department (see contact information below) for guidance on possible additional kit fox protection measures to implement and whether or not a Federal and/or State incidental take permit is needed. If a potential den is encountered during construction, work shall stop until such time the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service/Department

determines it is appropriate to resume work.

If incidental take of kit fox during project activities is possible, **before project activities commence**, the applicant must consult with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the Department. The results of this consultation may require the applicant to obtain a Federal and/or State permit for incidental take during project activities. The applicant should be aware that the presence of kit foxes or known or potential kit fox dens at the project site could result in further delays of project activities.

- d. In addition, the qualified biologist shall implement the following measures:
 - 1. Within 30 days prior to initiation of site disturbance and/or construction, fenced exclusion zones shall be established around all known and potential kit fox dens. Exclusion zone fencing shall consist of either large flagged stakes connected by rope or cord, or survey laths or wooden stakes prominently flagged with survey ribbon. Each exclusion zone shall be roughly circular in configuration with a radius of the following distance measured outward from the den or burrow entrances:

a) Potential kit fox den: 50 feet

b) Known or active kit fox den: 100 feet

c) Kit fox pupping den: 150 feet

- 2. All foot and vehicle traffic, as well as all construction activities, including storage of supplies and equipment, shall remain outside of exclusion zones. Exclusion zones shall be maintained until all project-related disturbances have been terminated, and then shall be removed.
- 3. If kit foxes or known or potential kit fox dens are found on site, daily monitoring during ground disturbing activities shall be required by a qualified biologist.

Monitoring: Required prior to issuance of a grading and/or construction permit. Compliance will be verified by the County Division of Environmental and Resource Management.

BR-3 Prior to issuance of grading and/or construction permits, the applicant shall clearly delineate as a note on the project plans, that: "Speed signs of 25 mph (or lower) shall be posted for all construction traffic to minimize the probability of road mortality of the San Joaquin kit fox". Speed limit signs shall be installed on the project site within 30 days prior to initiation of site disturbance and/or construction,

In addition, **prior to permit issuance and initiation of any ground disturbing activities**, conditions BR-3 through BR-11 of the Developer's Statement/Conditions of Approval shall be clearly delineated on project plans.

- BR-4 **During the site disturbance and/or construction phase**, grading and construction activities after dusk shall be prohibited unless coordinated through the County, during which additional kit fox mitigation measures may be required.
- BR-5 Prior to issuance of grading and/or construction permit and within 30 days prior to initiation of site disturbance and/or construction, all personnel associated with the project shall attend a worker education training program, conducted by a qualified biologist, to avoid or reduce impacts on sensitive biological resources (i.e. San Joaquin kit fox). At a minimum, as the program relates to the kit fox, the training shall include the kit fox's life history, all mitigation

measures specified by the county, as well as any related biological report(s) prepared for the project. The applicant shall notify the County shortly prior to this meeting. A kit fox fact sheet shall also be developed prior to the training program, and distributed at the training program to all contractors, employers and other personnel involved with the construction of the project.

- BR-6 **During the site-disturbance and/or construction phase**, to prevent entrapment of the San Joaquin kit fox, all excavation, steep-walled holes or trenches in excess of two feet in depth shall be covered at the close of each working day by plywood or similar materials, or provided with one or more escape ramps constructed of earth fill or wooden planks. Trenches shall also be inspected for entrapped kit fox each morning prior to onset of field activities and immediately prior to covering with plywood at the end of each working day. Before such holes or trenches are filled, they shall be thoroughly inspected for entrapped kit fox. Any kit fox so discovered shall be allowed to escape before field activities resume, or removed from the trench or hole by a qualified biologist and allowed to escape unimpeded.
- BR-7 **During the site-disturbance and/or construction phase,** any pipes, culverts, or similar structures with a diameter of four inches or greater, stored overnight at the project site shall be thoroughly inspected for trapped San Joaquin kit foxes before the subject pipe is subsequently buried, capped, or otherwise used or moved in any way. If during the construction phase a kit fox is discovered inside a pipe, that section of pipe will not be moved, or if necessary, be moved only once to remove it from the path of activity, until the kit fox has escaped.
- BR-8 **During the site-disturbance and/or construction phase**, all food-related trash items such as wrappers, cans, bottles, and food scraps generated shall be disposed of in closed containers only and regularly removed from the site. Food items may attract San Joaquin kit foxes onto the project site, consequently exposing such animals to increased risk of injury or mortality. No deliberate feeding of wildlife shall be allowed.
- BR-9 **Prior to, during and after the site-disturbance and/or construction phase,** use of pesticides or herbicides shall be in compliance with all local, State and Federal regulations. This is necessary to minimize the probability of primary or secondary poisoning of endangered species utilizing adjacent habitats, and the depletion of prey upon which San Joaquin kit foxes depend.
- BR-10 **During the site-disturbance and/or construction phase,** any contractor or employee that inadvertently kills or injures a San Joaquin kit fox or who finds any such animal either dead, injured, or entrapped shall be required to report the incident immediately to the applicant and County. In the event that any observations are made of injured or dead kit fox, the applicant shall immediately notify the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and Department by telephone (see contact information below). In addition, formal notification shall be provided in writing within three working days of the finding of any such animal(s). Notification shall include the date, time, location and circumstances of the incident. Any threatened or endangered species found dead or injured shall be turned over immediately to Department for care, analysis, or disposition.
- BR-11 **Prior to final inspection, or occupancy, whichever comes first,** should any long internal or perimeter fencing be proposed or installed, the applicant shall do the following to provide for kit fox passage:
 - a. If a wire strand/pole design is used, the lowest strand shall be no closer to the ground than 12".
 - b. If a more solid wire mesh fence is used, 8" x 12" openings near the ground shall be provided every 100 yards.

Upon fence installation, the applicant shall notify the County to verify proper installation. Any fencing

constructed after issuance of a final permit shall follow the above guidelines.

Monitoring (San Joaquin Kit Fox Measures BR-3 – BR-11): Compliance will be verified by the County Division of Environmental and Resource Management in consultation with the California Department of Fish and Game. As applicable, each of these measures shall be included on construction plans.

Contact Information

California Department of Fish and Game Central Coast Region P.O. Box 47 Yountville, CA 94599 (805) 528-8670 (805) 772-4318 U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Ventura Field Office 2493 Portola Road, Suite B Ventura, CA 93003 (805) 644-1766

County of San Luis Obispo
Department of Planning and Building
Division of Environmental and Resource Management
County Government Center, Room 310
San Luis Obispo, CA 93408
ATTN: Ms. Julie Eliason

The applicant understands that any changes made to the project description subsequent to this environmental determination must be reviewed by the Environmental Coordinator and may require a new environmental determination for the project. By signing this agreement, the owner(s) agrees to and accepts the incorporation of the above measures into the proposed project description.

Signature of Owner(s)	Date		
Name (Print)			

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Monitoring (San Joaquin Kit Fox Measures BR-3 - BR-11). Compliance will be verified by the County Division of Environmental and Resource Management in consultation with the California Department of Fish and Game. As applicable, each of these measures shall be included on construction plans.

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